

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AEC-11 AID-20 CEA-02 CIAE-00 CIEP-03

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-24 FPC-01 H-03 INR-11 INT-08 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-07 OMB-01 PM-07 RSC-01 SAM-01 SCI-06

SP-03 SS-20 STR-08 TRSE-00 FRB-03 FEA-02 DRC-01 /172 W

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R 011703Z OCT 74

FM AMEMBASSY LONDON

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 4388

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ENRG, EARL, UK, PL

SUBJECT: CEGB COAL TEAM TO POLAND ARRIVING ABOUT
OCTOBER 7

REF: LONDON 12237

1. SOURCE IN CENTRAL ELECTRICITY GENERATING BOARD (CEGB)
SAID TRIP REPORTED REFTEL PUT OFF UNTIL WEEK OF OCTOBER 7.
2. CEGB TEAM WILL CONSIST OF FUEL SUPPLIES OFFICER,
GORDON BLAIN; CHIEF OF COAL, NATURAL GAS AND EEC ENERGY
POLICY, C.M. SPRINGSGUTH AND ONE OTHER SENIOR OFFICER AT
LEAST.
3. GROUP WILL HAVE AUTHORITY TO SIGN CONTRACTS FOR SHORT
(1-3, 4 YEAR), AND MEDIUM (6-15 YEAR) TERM, AND TO BUY
SPOT.
4. REPORTEDLY BRITISH PETROLEUM (WHICH ACTS AS A MIDDLE-
MAN ON A REGULAR BASIS FOR INTERNATIONAL COAL DEALINGS
ACCORDING TO OUR SOURCE) HAS BEEN NEGOTIATING WITH THE
POLISH PARTIES AND THE CEGB TO ACT AS MIDDLEMAN IN ANY

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ARRANGEMENTS. THE CEGB HOPES ONE RESULT OF THIS VISIT

WILL BE TO BYPASS THE MIDDLEMAN.

5. FYI: BRITISH COAL STOCKS AT STEAM GENERATING SITES
ARE WELL BELOW EEC TARGET OF "50 DAYS" AND FURTHER BELOW
CEGB'S OWN ESTIMATES OF NECESSARY SAFETY MARGINS GIVEN
POSSIBILITY OF INDUSTRIAL ACTION BY COAL MINERS AND FORE-
CAST OF SEVERE WINTER.

ANNENBERG

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